

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SIL-01 AGR-20 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /158 W

----- 063247

R 131320 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8091

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2951

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SREF, UNRWA, F

SUBJ: FY-74 US FLOUR CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA.

REF: STATE 67628 AND JERUSALEM 372.

1. SUMMARY: SO FAR AS EMB AWARE GOI AND UNRWA HAVE HAD FRE-
QUENT EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON QUESTION OF IDENTIFYING REFUGEES
WORKING IN ISRAEL. IT APPEARS TO US THAT EACH SIDE WANTS PLACE
ON THE OTHER ONUS OF TAKING ACTION TO CUT THESE WORKERS FROM
RATION ROLLS. A SECOND REASON GOI HAS DECLINED FURNISH LIST IS
THAT IT KNOWS IT WOULD BE ONLY PARTIAL LIST OF WORKERS. UNRWA
FOR ITS PART APPEARS UNABLE (BECAUSE OF NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF
ITS OWN EMPLOYEES IN CAMPS) TO CONDUCT NEEDED SCREENING PROCESS
ITSELF, BUT IS UNWILLING PERMIT GOI PARTICIPATION IN SCREENING
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME STATUS OF REFUGEES. EMB SEES NO USEFUL
PURPOSE FOR USG TO PRESSURE GOI ON THIS MATTER. WE SUGGEST UNRWA
COMPROMISE TO PERMIT GOI PARTICIPATE IN SCREENING PROCESS WHILE
MAINTAINING UNRWA A RIGHT TO DECIDE WHICH REFUGEES TO BE CUT FROM
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ROLLS. END SUMMARY.

2. FROM EMBOFFS' CONTACTS WITH WORKING LEVEL GOI OFFICIALS IN MFA, SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTRY AND OCCUPIED AREAS MILITARY GOVTS AS WELL AS GAZA UNRWA OFFICAM. DEMIREL REPLIED ALMOST CASUALLY, TREATING MATTER AS FINISHED BUSINESS, AND SAYING ONLY THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN NEXT FEW YEARS, AS LONG AS MATTER WELL HANDLED BY GOT WHICH, HE IMPLIED, SHOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFICULT.

3. IN OBVIOUSLY EBULIENT MOOD, DEMIREL WENT INTO SOME DETAIL ON RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS, EXPRESSING HIS SATISFACTION WITH CHOICE OF KORUTURK AS PRESIDENT. HE INDICATED HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE PUT ARIBURUN OVER IF HE HAD PRESSED AT THE RIGHT MOMENT WITH ALL HIS RESOURCES, BUT THAT PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION HAD NOT BEEN ONE OF " WHO SHOULD BE ELECTED BUT RATHER OF WHO SHOULD NOT BE." ALL THE CANDIDATES, HE SAID, HAD BEEN GOOD MEN, BUT IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THE TRADITION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TGS AUTOMATICALLY BECOMING PRESIDENT HAD TO BE BROKEN. THAT DAY HAS NOW PASSED. PARLIAMENTARY SUPREMACY HAD NOW BEEN ESTABLISHED; THAT WAS THE GREAT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PAST FEW WEEKS.

4. HE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE SELECTION OF TALU AS PRIME MINISTER, ACCURATELY INDICATING THE TIME AND NATURE OF THE SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENT. THE TALU GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, COULD BE CALLED A COALITION GOVERNMENT IF ONE WANTED. IT WOULD BE BASED ON A PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE JP AND THE RP. IT IS INTENDED BASICALLY AS A " FIVE MONTHS' GOVERNMENT" WHICH HAS ITS MAIN TASK COMPLETION OF REFORMS IN ELECTION LAWS, FOR THE UNIVERSITIES, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL SECURITY COURTS, DEMIREL WOULD SUPPPORT THE GOVERNMENT COMPLETELY; THERE MIGHT BE PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION, BUT HE HAD THE VOTES TO MAKE THINGS WORK. HE WOULD " HELP" CONFIDENTIAL

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TALU SELECT HIS MINISTERS BUT DIDN' T CARE PARTICULARLY JUST WHO THEY WERE.

5. TURNING TO ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, DEMIREL SAID THE COUNTRY WAS NOW IN A POSITION TO BEGIN TO DO GREAT THINGS. BOTH RESOURCES AND REQUIREMENTS WERE GROWING. THE

WORKERS FROM EUROPE WERE NOT ONLY BRINGING BACK MONEY BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY NEW IDEAS. ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS POLITICAL STABILITY AND A FAVORABLE CLIMATE FOR DEVELOPMENT. BOTH WOULD BE PRESENT AFTER THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS.

6. ON FOREIGN POLICY, HE SAID TURKEY'S POSITION WAS FIXED. IT HAD CHOSEN THE WEST AND WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE US. THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED. (HE RECALLED HIS OWN PAST DEFENSE OF NATO AND TIES WITH THE US.) RELATIONS WITH THE USSR MIGHT IMPROVE BUT THERE WAS STILL DANGER FROM SUBVERSION. HE KNEW IT AND SO DID ALL TURKS.

7. DEMIREL'S PERFORMANCE THROUGHOUT WAS IMPRESSIVE. HE POINTED AT STRIKING PICTURE OF HIS PEASANT FATHER, HUSSAIN, AND TALKED OF TURKEY AS " THE HUSSAINS" SEE IT. THEY LOVE THE ARMY, AND THE ARMY MUST BE SATISFIED WITH THE GOVERNMENT, BUT IT MUST NOT TRY TO RULE. WHAT THEY WANTED MOST WAS " AN OPEN SOCIETY," AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL TO IMPROVE THEIR LOT. HE INDICATED THE MILITARY-- AS WELL AS " THE HUSSAINS"-- WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH KORUTURK AND TALU.

8. HE SAID WITH OBVIOUS SATISFACTION THAT THE DANGER OF A PRESIDENT'S VETOING A PRIME MINISTER WAS NOW PAST. THERE WOULD BE ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER AND HIS PARTY WOULD WIN. THE OTHER MAJOR PARTIES WERE DEVOTED TO DEMOCRACY TOO AND WHEN THEIR TURN CAME TO WIN, HE WOULD BE HAPPY. IF ELECTIONS WERE EVER CANCELLED, HE WOULD RESIGN AS A DEPUTY AND PARTY LEADER AND GO OUT AND " SHOULD" IN THE STREETS AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN. SO WOULD OTHERS.

9. DEMIREL SAID REPEATEDLY THAT HE SEES " BEAUTIFUL HORIZONS" AHEAD FOR TURKEY ON ALL SIDES. WHILE UNDOUBTEDLY DOING A BIT OF ROLE- PLAYING FOR A FOREIGN AMBASSADOR, HIS CALM CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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CONVINCING AND NOT UNREALISTIC; HIS PICTURE OF HIMSELF AS BEING COMPLETELY IN CONTROL OF RECENT EVENTS IS LARGELY SUBSTANTIATED BY OTHER SOURCES. A LOT CAN HAPPEN BETWEEN NOW AND OCTOBER-- EVEN AFTERWARDS--, BUT IT SEEMS A SAFE BET THAT DEMIREL WILL REMAIN A MAJOR FORCE IN TURKISH POLITICS FOR SOME TIME TO COME. INDEED, HIS OWN IMAGE OF HIMSELF AS " THE MAN" FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS MAY WELL TURN OUT TO BE CORRECT.
HANDLEY

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